

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-16. Cancelled.

17. (new) A process for extracting oxygenates from a hydrocarbon stream containing a range of hydrocarbons in the C₈ to C₁₆ range, the process including the step of extracting the oxygenates in a liquid-liquid extraction process using a mixture of methanol and water as the solvent,

wherein an extract from the liquid-liquid extraction is sent to a solvent recovery column from which a tops product comprising methanol, olefins and paraffins is recycled to the extraction step, thereby enhancing the overall recovery of olefins and paraffins.

18. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the aqueous phase of a bottoms product from the solvent recovery column is recycled to the extraction step.

19. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the extraction step takes place in an extraction column.

20. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the solvent introduced to the extraction step has a water content of more than 3% by weight.

21. (new) The process according to claim 20, wherein the solvent has a water content of from 5% - 15% by weight.

22. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the olefin/paraffin ratio of the hydrocarbon stream is substantially preserved after the extraction step.

23. (new) The process according to claim 19, wherein a raffinate from the extraction column is sent to a stripper column from which a hydrocarbon feed stream containing more than 90% by weight olefins and paraffins and less than 0.2% by weight oxygenates exits as a bottoms product.

24. (new) The process according to claim 23, wherein the bottoms product contains less than 0.02% by weight oxygenates.

25. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the recovery of olefins and paraffins over the oxygenate extraction step is greater than 70%.
26. (new) The process according to claim 25, wherein the recovery of olefins and paraffins over the oxygenate extraction step is greater than 80%.
27. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the solvent recovery column includes an extract inlet, an upper overhead outlet and a lower bottoms outlet, with a side-draw located above the extract feed point and below the overheads outlet.
28. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the fractionated condensate product from a low temperature Fischer-Tropsch reaction.
29. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the hydrocarbon stream contains 5 – 15% by weight oxygenates.
30. (new) The process according to claim 17, wherein the fractionated hydrocarbon condensate product is in the C₁₀ to C₁₃ range.